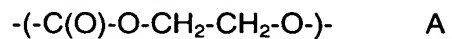


Abstract

A device implantable into a human or animal body comprising a biodegradable polymer which comprises ethylene carbonate units of the formula A



having an ethylene carbonate content of 70 to 100 Mol%, an intrinsic viscosity of 0.4 to 4.0 dl/g measured in chloroform at 20°C at a concentration of 1 g/dl and a glass transition temperature of from 5 to 50°C, degradable by surface erosion which is governed by a non-hydrolytic mechanism.